

RCA Victor Label Discography

Radio Corporation of America (RCA) was established as an electronics company in 1919. RCA got into the record business when it purchased the Victor Talking Machine Company in 1929. Victor Talking Machine Company was the largest manufacturer of phonographs and phonograph records. Records released after 1929 were issued under the RCA Victor logo. For brevity in this discography, "RCA Victor" is often shortened to just "RCA."

RCA Victor and Columbia were the largest record companies. RCA Victor had a full line of musical output including popular, classical, country and western, Jazz, rhythm and blues, Latin, children's, international, sacred, gospel, comedy and spoken word.

The President of RCA Victor was Frank Folsom and the Chairman of the Board was David Sarnoff. During the 50's A&R was handled by Joe Carlton, Joe Cside, Charles Grean, Jack Hallstrom, Dave Kapp, Eli Oberstein and George R Marek. Many of these A&R men went on to found their own labels.

The RCA Victor record division was located in Camden New Jersey. RCA Victor had subsidiary labels called Bluebird, Groove, Vik, "X" and Camden.

RCA developed 33 1/3 RPM records in 1931 which were called program transcriptions. These records had the same grooves as a standard 78 RPM records of the days. These records were a failure during the depression and abandoned. RCA Victor did not produce 33 1/3 RPM records again until 1949 when they adopted the microgroove record developed by Columbia. When Columbia was developing the 33 1/3 RPM long play records, RCA Victor developed the 45 RPM record, the 45 was 7 inch in diameter and had a large hole in the middle. The 45 was developed to play the same amount of music as the 78 RPM, 10 inch record. During the 50's and 60's the 45 RPM was dominate for singles and totally replaced the 78 RPM by 1960 in the United States. In the long run though, the 33 1/3 long play became the dominant format which lasted until it was replaced by the Compact Disc in the 1980s.

The RCA Victor and associated label discography was compiled using our record collections, Schwann Catalogs from 1949 to 1982, a Phono-Log from 1963, and various other sources including the Internet. Tracks are listed in the order they appear on the albums, when known. The double slash (//) is indication of the separation between sides. Titles listed without a double slash (//) are listed as printed in the Schwann catalog or Phono-Log, and the separation between side one and side two is unknown. Titles with an asterisk (*) in front of the number usually have the titles listed alphabetically since track order is unknown. For those albums where the track-by-track stereo content is indicated, (S) means true stereo, (E) means electronic (fake) stereo, and (M) means mono.

This discography only covers RCA releases up to approximately 1990, when vinyl was discontinued. The discography covers the RCA Victor label and it's subsidiary labels: RCA Camden, RCA Red Seal, RCA Gold Seal, Groove, Vik, "X", Bluebird, Victrola and His Master's Voice.

This discography also includes labels distributed by RCA including: Bahia, Beggars Banquet, Boardwalk, Chelsea (RCA Distributed only), Chi-Sound (Distributed by RCA as part of 20th Century Fox), Coigems, Curb, Dream, Dreamland, Ensign, Equinox, Flying Dutchman (RCA distributed only), Free Flight, Gold Mind, Grunt, King Jay, Mammoth, Midland International, Midsong International, Metromedia, Millennium, New York International, Nine, Novus, Panorama, Phantom, Planet, Rapple, Roadshow, Rocket (RCA distributed only), Roxbury, Salsoul, Sixth Avenue, Solar, Soul Train, T.M.I., Tabu, Tattoo, Tom 'n' Jerry, Tom Cat, Tortoise International, Total Experience, Utopia, Windsong, Wooden Nickel (RCA distribution only). Not included is 20th Century Fox which was distributed by RCA but has a page of its own.

Also included are RCA International releases, RCA Carribean releases, RCA Mexican releases, RCA Canadian International releases, and RCA Italian International releases. These series are included with as much information that we have available, but are probably not complete.